

**GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY**

**REPORT ON AUDIT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
JUNE 30, 2009**



## **AUDIT SUMMARY**

Our audit of George Mason University for the year ended June 30, 2009, found:

- the financial statements are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
- no material weaknesses in internal control over financial reporting; and
- no instances of noncompliance or other matters required to be reported under Government Auditing Standards.

We have audited the basic financial statements of George Mason University as of and for the year ended June 30, 2009 and issued our report thereon, dated April 19, 2010. Our report, included with the University's basic financial statements, is available at the Auditor of Public Accounts' web site at [www.apa.virginia.gov](http://www.apa.virginia.gov) and at the University's web site at [www.gmu.edu](http://www.gmu.edu).



# Commonwealth of Virginia

**Walter J. Kucharski, Auditor**

**Auditor of Public Accounts  
P.O. Box 1295  
Richmond, Virginia 23218**

April 19, 2010

The Honorable Robert F. McDonnell  
Governor of Virginia

The Honorable M. Kirkland Cox  
Chairman, Joint Legislative Audit  
and Review Commission

Board of Visitors  
George Mason University

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS

We have audited the financial statements of the business-type activities and aggregate discretely presented component units of **George Mason University** as of and for the year ended June 30, 2009, which collectively comprise the University's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated April 19, 2010. Our report was modified to include a reference to other auditors. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. We did not consider internal controls over financial reporting or test compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements for the financial statements of the component units of the University, which were audited by other auditors in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, but not in accordance with Government Auditing Standards.

### Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the University's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the University's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the University's internal control over financial reporting.

A control deficiency exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies, that adversely affects the entity's ability to initiate, authorize, record, process, or report financial data reliably in

accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, such that there is more than a remote likelihood that a misstatement of the entity's financial statements that is more than inconsequential will not be prevented or detected by the entity's internal control over financial reporting.

A material weakness is a significant deficiency, or combination of significant deficiencies, that results in more than a remote likelihood that a material misstatement of the financial statements will not be prevented or detected by the entity's internal control over financial reporting.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above.

#### Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether George Mason University's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under Government Auditing Standards.

#### Report Distribution and Exit Conference

The "Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters" is intended solely for the information and use of the Governor and General Assembly of Virginia, the Board of Visitors, and management, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties. However, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.

We discussed this report with management at an exit conference held on April 21, 2010.

AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

JS/alh

GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY

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